

Community Excellence Awards

2018 Winner & Honourable Mention Profiles

Winner: Excellence in Governance

City of Richmond – Leadership in Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Requirements

Richmond’s ‘Leadership in Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Requirements’ project requires that all new developments feature an electrical outlet in residential parking spaces capable of providing “Level 2” charging for electric vehicles (EVs) – a first in North America, and possibly the world.



The City was able to build consensus and support for the project through a rigorous multi-stakeholder consultation period that included a public open house, online survey, departmental coordination process, and over two dozen meetings with advocacy groups, developers, home owners and builders groups, EV charging service providers, and other local governments.

By providing a policy solution to the “EV readiness” problem through deliberative and collaborative decision-making, the project demonstrates a tangible way for local governments to support the reduction of carbon emissions and thereby increase their community’s long-term sustainability. This pathway to climate action has already inspired other local governments to follow suit, including the City of Vancouver and District of West Vancouver.



Honourable Mention: Excellence in Governance

Cowichan Valley Regional District – Cowichan 2050 Regional Collaboration Framework

The Cowichan 2050 Regional Collaboration Framework is a leading-edge statutory policy tool and collaborative approach to regional planning and decision-making. Emphasizing regional collaboration, communication, and coordination, its purpose is to address the crosscutting nature of emergent challenges faced by local governments, such as those related to climate change and population growth.



To date, the project has produced a Regional Working Group Scope of Work document, a regional primer that pulls together common policy themes from various official plans, and a Call to Action, endorsed by the CVRD, Town of Ladysmith, Municipality of North Cowichan, City of Duncan, and Town of Lake Cowichan in June of 2018. These will be expanded on and further developed in the future.

The permanent Regional Working Group established through the Framework is made up of participants from 13 local organizations including local governments, First Nations, and region-serving community groups, and continues to meet regularly to coordinate on key issues and ensure that regional partners are working in unison towards collective goals.



The Excellence in Governance category acknowledges programs, policies and processes that exemplify good governance by supporting citizen participation in civic decision-making, being inclusive, equitable and consensus-based, and exemplifying best practices in accountability, effectiveness, and long-term thinking.